



Board of Trustees - Study Session

Tuesday, July 26, 2022 at 5:45 pm

**PLEASE SILENCE ALL CELL PHONE AND ELECTRONIC DEVICES.
THANK YOU**

1. Meeting Information

207 Muegge Way, Bennett, CO 80102

For a live stream of the meeting use the information below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84285000718>

Meeting ID: 842 8500 0718

Passcode: 677682

One tap mobile

+16699006833

2. Public Safety Capstone Project

Steve King, Special Projects Coordinator

Attachments:

- **Staff Report Public Safety Capstone Project** (0_-_Public_Safety_and_Fear_of_Crime_Staff_Report_rs_redline.pdf)
- **PowerPoint Presentation The Fear of Crime** (The_Fear_of_Crime_Presentation.pdf)
- **Community Survey Data Charts** (Town_of_Bennett__Fear_of_Crime__Survey_Results.pdf)

3. Bennett Civic Center Park Conceptual Plan

Rachel Summers, Deputy Town Administrator

Robin Price, Public Works Director

Attachments:

- **Staff Report Bennett Civic Center Park Conceptual Plan** (0_-_Staff_Report_Civic_Center_Park_Conceptual_Plan.pdf)
- **Bennett Civic Center Park Master Plan** (1_-_Civic_Center_Park_Master_Plan.pdf)

4. Town Clerk Department Update

Christina Hart, Town Clerk

Attachments:

- **Town Clerk Department Update** (Clerks_Dept_Progress_Report_final.pdf)

Contact: Christina Hart (chart@bennett.co.us 303-644-3249 x1001) | Agenda published on 07/21/2022 at 11:57 AM

TO: Mayor and Town of Bennett Board of Trustees
FROM: Steve King, Special Project Coordinator
DATE: July 26, 2022
SUBJECT: Public Safety Capstone Project

Background

In the Spring of 2022, the Town of Bennett and the University of Colorado Denver, graduate student Steve King conducted a research study into public safety in town. This project included a review of literature, an analysis of local crime data, and an analysis of data collected from a community survey and focus group with the goal of creating a list of recommendations to improve residents sense of safety.

Executive Summary

After evaluating the local crime data, it was determined that conducting a project surrounding the “fear” associated with crime was the more appropriate research topic. The term “fear of crime” is used to describe the emotional reaction an individual might have to a perceived threatening situation. This social-phenomena has become a popular source of research in the field of criminology and psychology.

This research project is unique within the world of academia as the large majority of research into the “fear of crime” has been primarily conducted in urban environments. As a result, we know very little about the differences between rural and urban “fear of crime”. The focus of my research was attempting to identify the driving causes/influences behind “fear” in town. A mixed-method methodology was used to conduct this research and examined the relationship between the characteristics of the respondents (e.g., age, gender, race, and length of residency) and the effects of neighborhood conditions (e.g., strength of social ties and rates of victimization).

The results of this research support leading theories on fear of crime. However, additional research with larger sample sizes will need to be conducted to evaluate the role lead theories (e.g. disorder/incivilities, perceptions of social cohesion, prior victimization, and assessment of police quality of service) have on the “fear of crime” in rural communities.

Staff Findings

The results from the research would suggest that efforts to improve street lighting, increase law enforcement visibility and provide more community events could improve residents' sense of safety and address common triggers of fear.

Attachments

1. PowerPoint Presentation The Fear of Crime
2. Community Survey Data Charts

The Fear of Crime in Bennett

Town of Bennett Board of Trustees

July 26, 2022

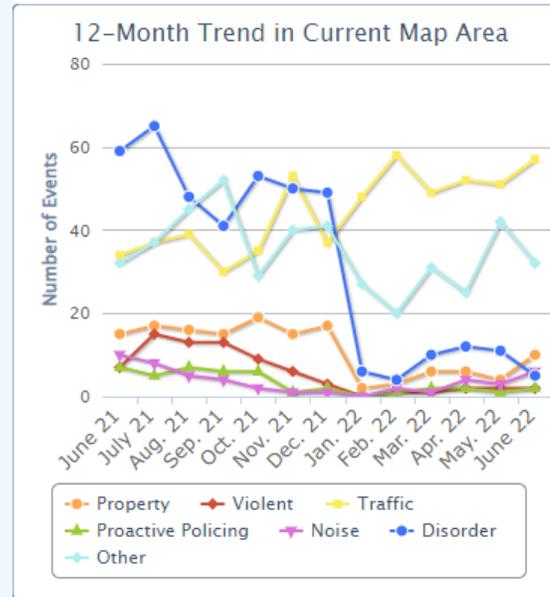
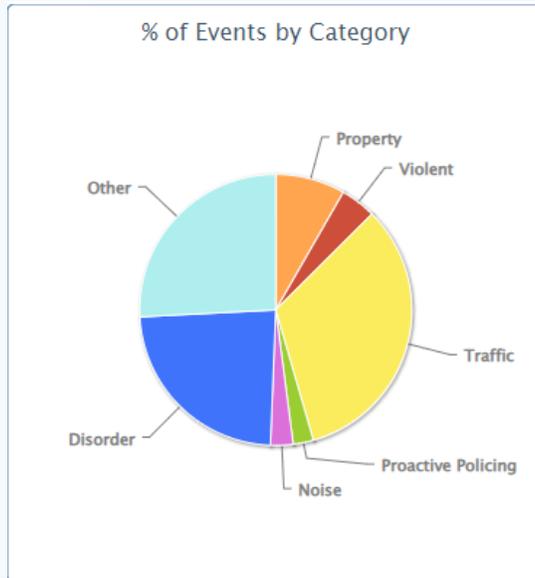
Steve King, Special Projects Coordinator



Background

- In the Spring of 2022, the Town of Bennett and University of Colorado Denver, graduate student Steve King conducted a research study into public safety and the fear of crime in town. This project was initiated in response to a perceived increase in crime in the area.
- This project included:
 - Review of literature on “fear of crime”
 - Analysis of local crime data
 - Community survey
 - Resident focus group

Bennett Crime Statistic 2021



On	Category	#
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Property	125
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Violent	62
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Traffic	555
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Proactive Policing	35
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Noise	34
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disorder	330
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other	421

According to data collected from the Adams County Sheriffs Office a total of 1562 crimes were reported between June 13, 2021 and June 12, 2022

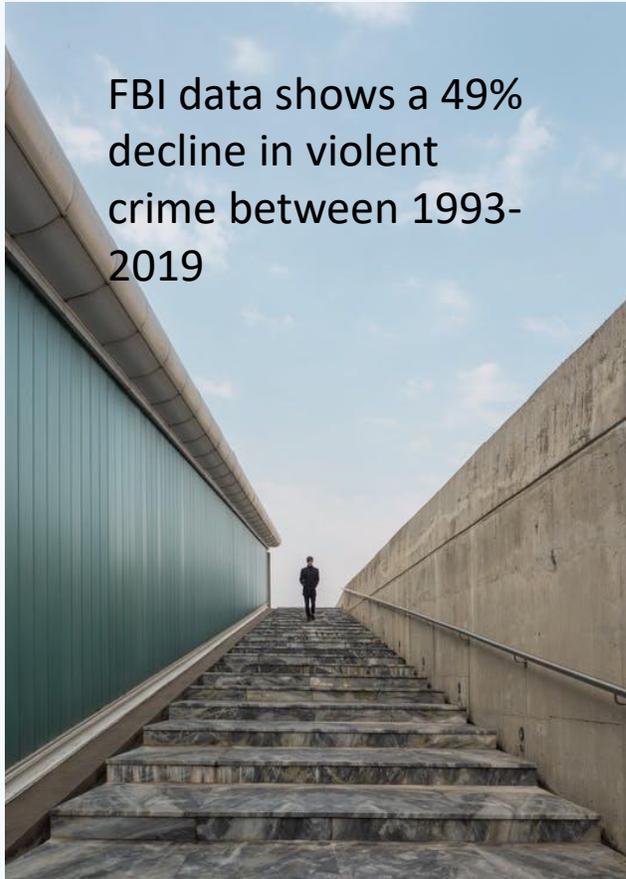
Mismatch

- There is often a mismatch between levels of crime and the fear of becoming a victim of crime. It is not uncommon to find individuals who suffer little or no crime but yet who are still fearful of some future crime. Alternately, a place or region might see an increase in crime over time while the fear of crime remains unchanged.

Reality ! = Perception but Perception > Reality

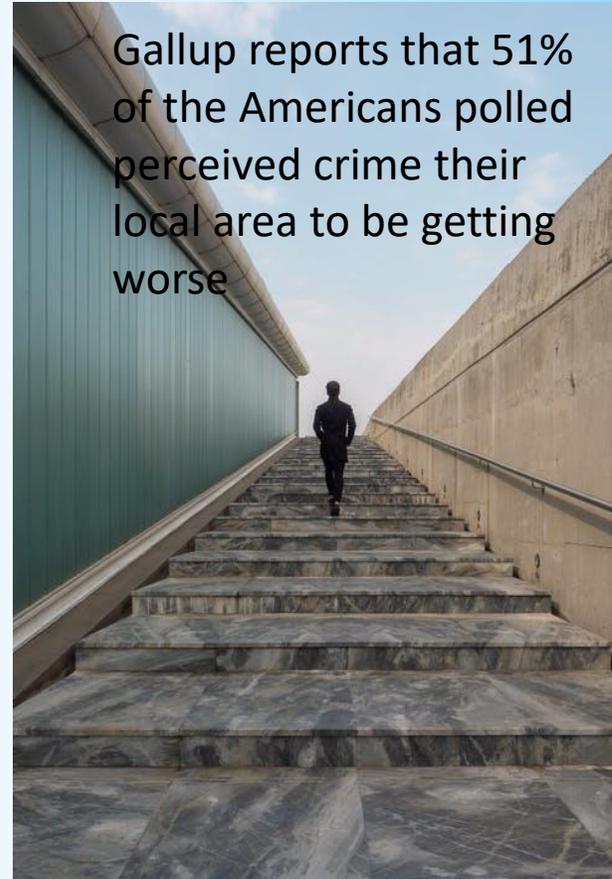
Violent Crime Rates

FBI data shows a 49% decline in violent crime between 1993-2019



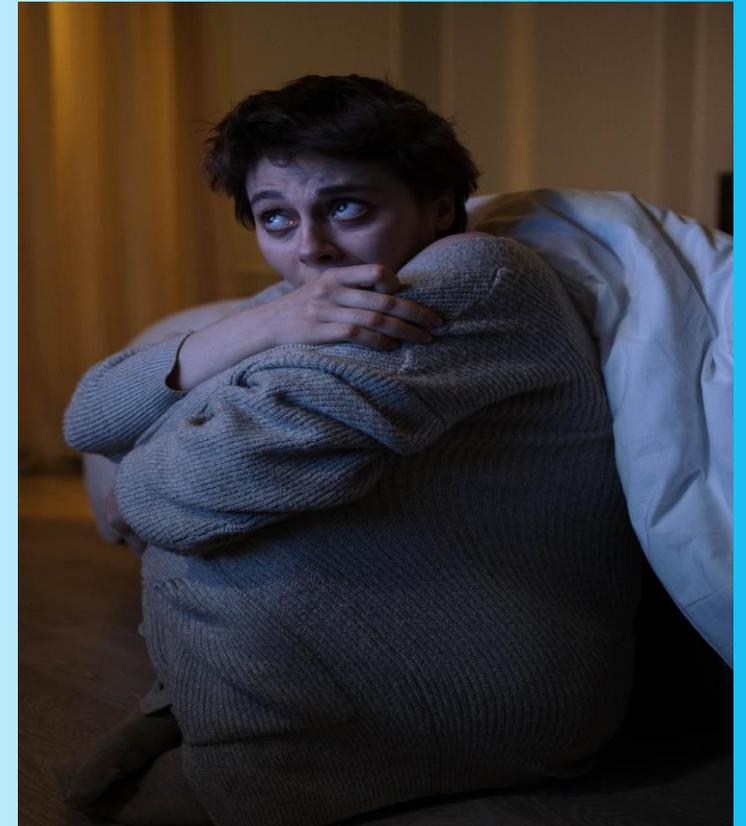
Rates of Fear

Gallup reports that 51% of the Americans polled perceived crime their local area to be getting worse

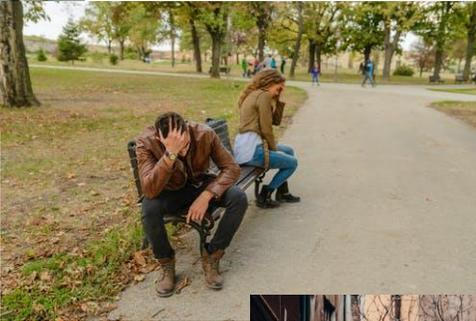


What is the fear of crime?

- Short-lived experiences related to specific and immediate threats to security.
- Reoccurring doubts
- Concerns expressed for others (vicarious fear)
- Fear in the absence of direct experience (it would be terrible if)
- Wider, more expressive, social concerns about troubles



Effects of Fear of Crime



- Erosion of social ties
- Increased social isolation
- Deterioration of the physical environment
- Increased social tension
- Decreased business investment
- Reduced trust/confidence in law enforcement

What Influences Fear?

- Direct experience with crime
- Indirect experiences with crime
- Mass media/social media
- Environment
- Confidence in the law enforcement and authorities
- Labeling and reputation of areas



Measuring Fear

- There is no standardized measurement for the fear of crime and researchers argue this is due to conceptual ambiguity.
- The research instrument used to conduct this study evaluated the respondent sense of social cohesion, social disorganization, risk of personal victimization and satisfaction with local law enforcement.

What the results tell us

Street Lighting



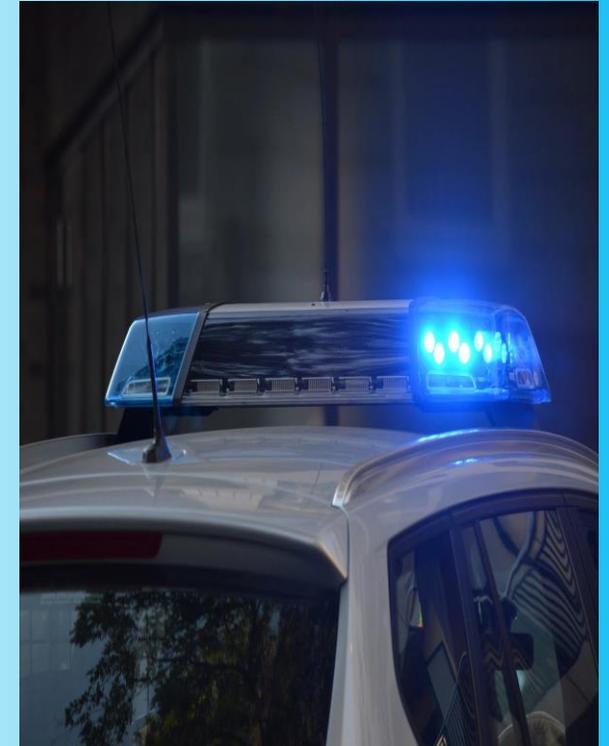
"Honestly, I think the lighting is substandard. I shouldn't have the hair on the back of my neck go straight up because I'm walking down the street at night" (Participant #2)

Social Cohesion



"It feels like we've gone from a sense of community and knowing your neighbors to all these new residents who aren't vested in the community" (Participant #1)

Patrol Frequency



"There is never a Arapahoe cop in our area and the one Adams cop is responsible for everything north of the highway from Watkins to Deer Trail." (Participant #4)

How do we fix it?

Our review of strategies and their impact on fear of crime has found modest to strong evidence in support of

- Neighbor to neighbor contact → reduces fear.
- Reducing crime → reduces fear (sometimes).
- Police visibility → reduces fear (sometimes).
- Street lighting → reduces fear.
- Police-citizen contact → reduces fear.
- Public confidence in police → reduces fear.



Our Commitment



- Target Fear by working with county sheriff partners to continue to measure and analyze fear of crime in a systematic approach.
- Reducing Fear by applying tailored responses-specific to the nature and causes of fear of crime as revealed through information and analysis.

Initiatives



REVIVE - Residential Vibrancy Initiative



Town of Bennett Community Services



We Are Here to Serve You

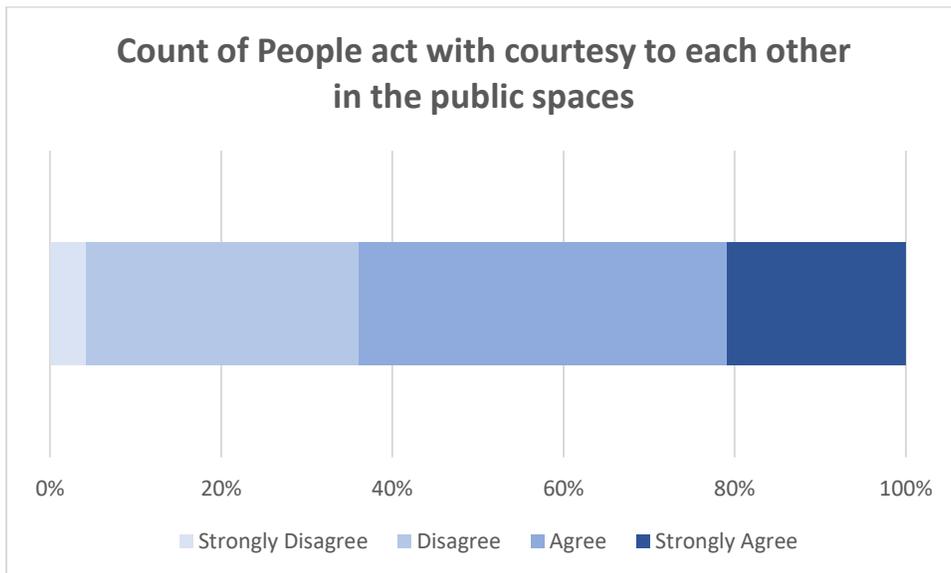
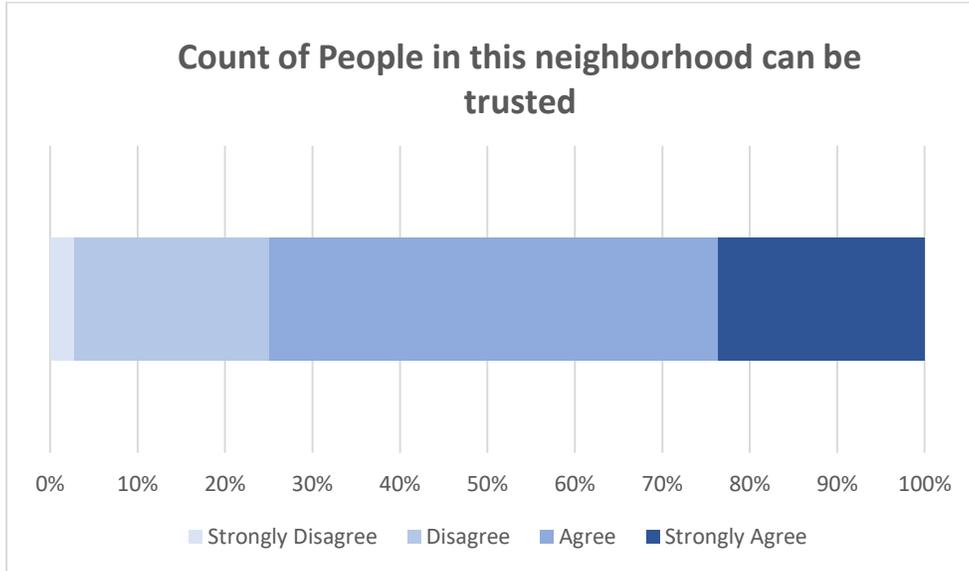


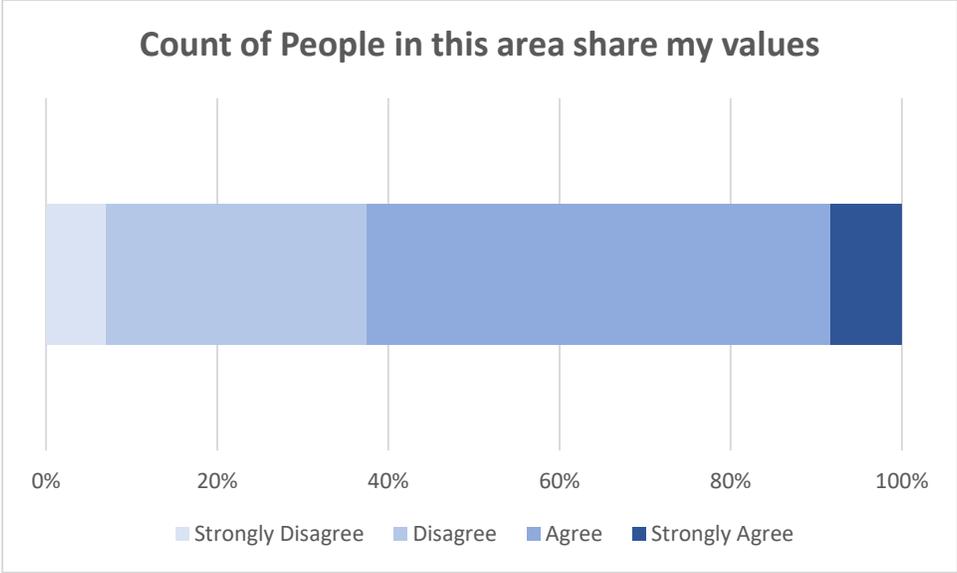
Questions



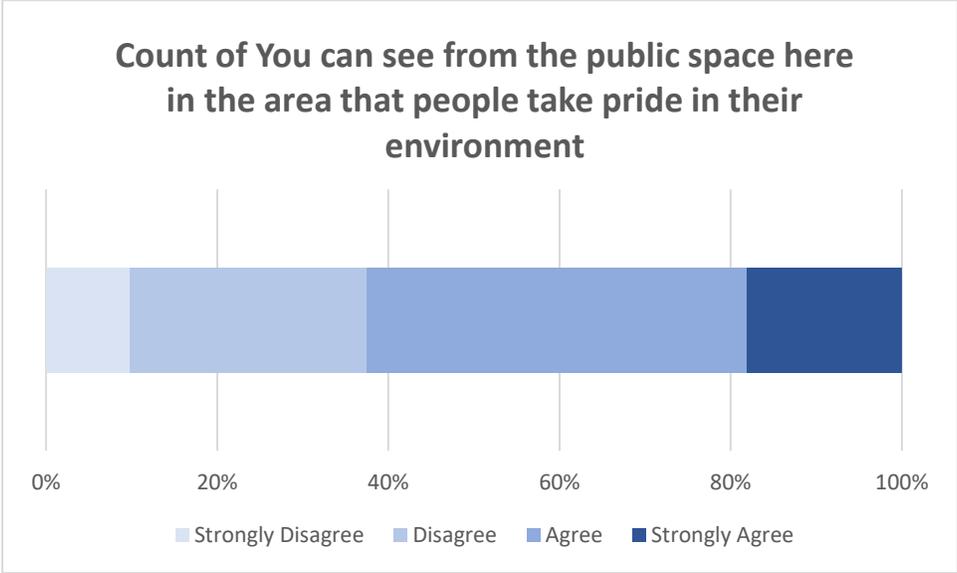
Town of Bennett “Fear of Crime” Survey Results

Perceptions of Social Cohesion

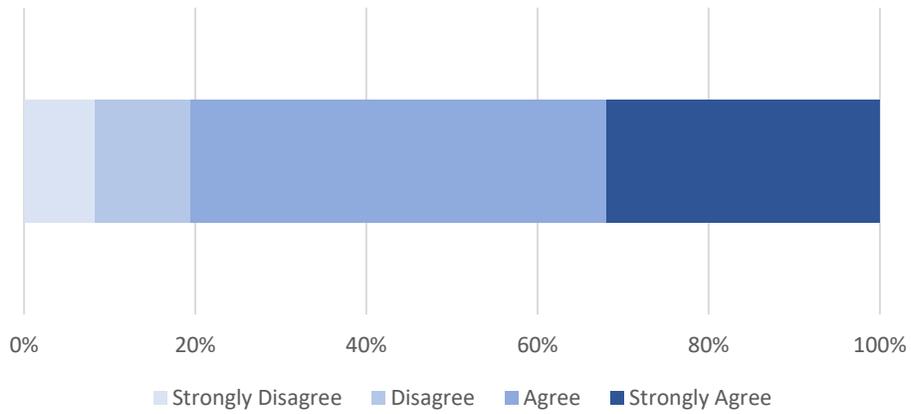




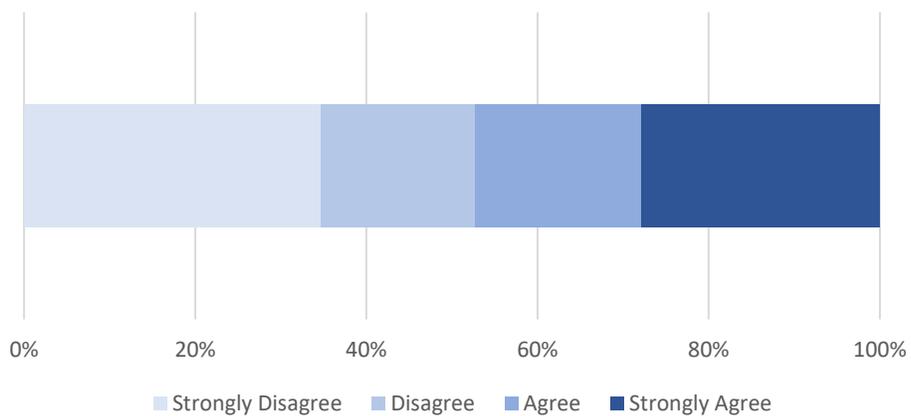
Perceptions of Social Disorder



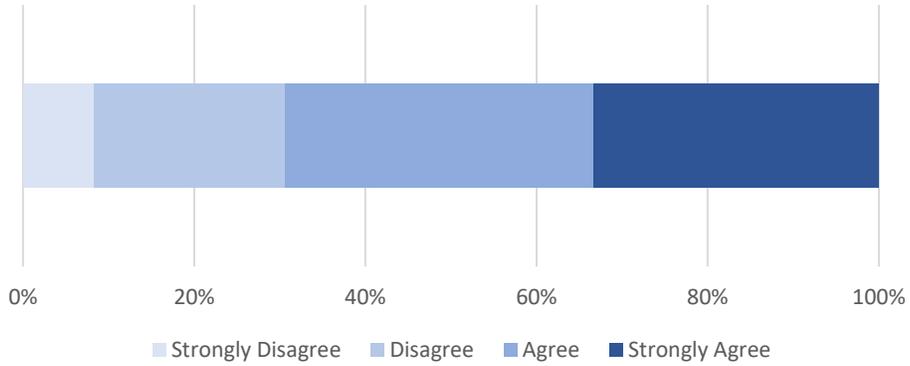
Count of If I sense trouble while in this area, I could get help from people who live here



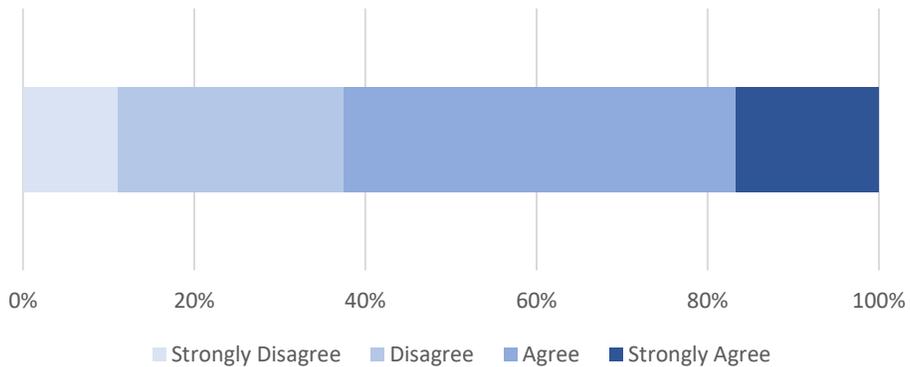
Count of A bad element has moved into my neighborhood



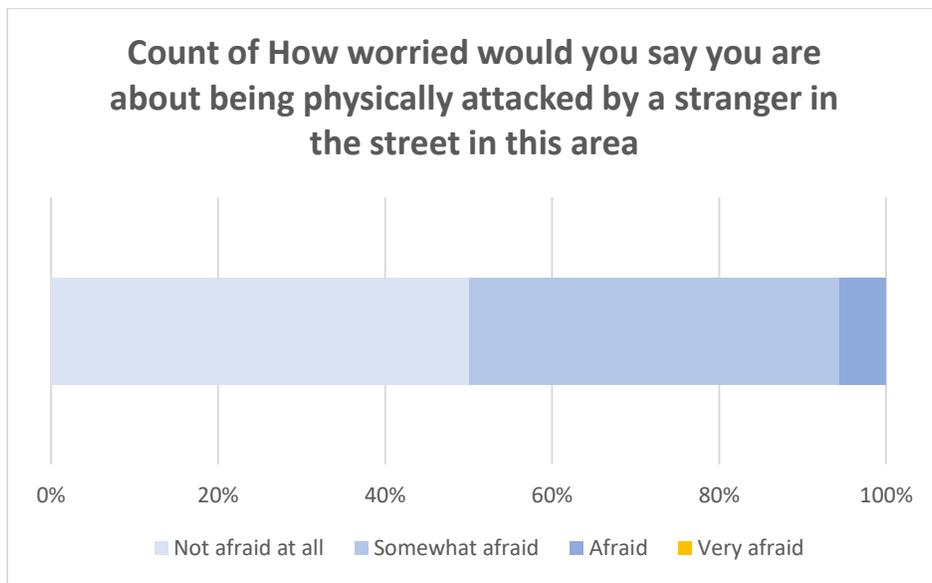
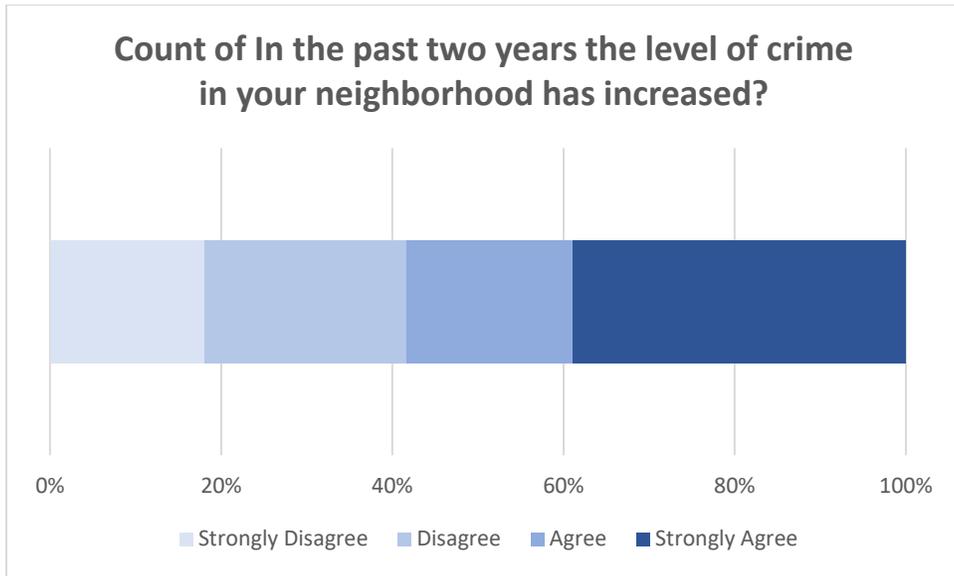
Count of The people who live here can be relied upon to call the police if someone is acting suspiciously



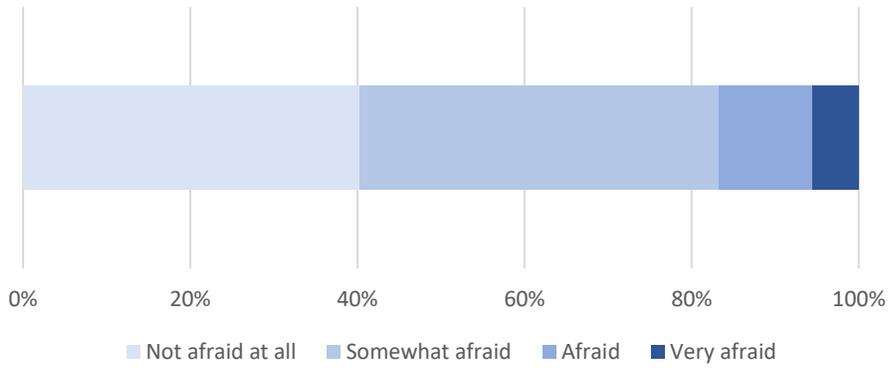
Count of If any of the children or young people around here are causing trouble, local people will intervene



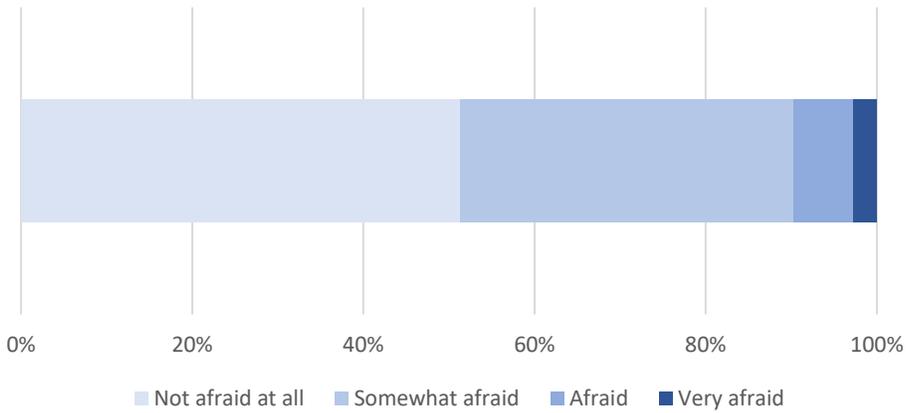
Perceptions of Victimization



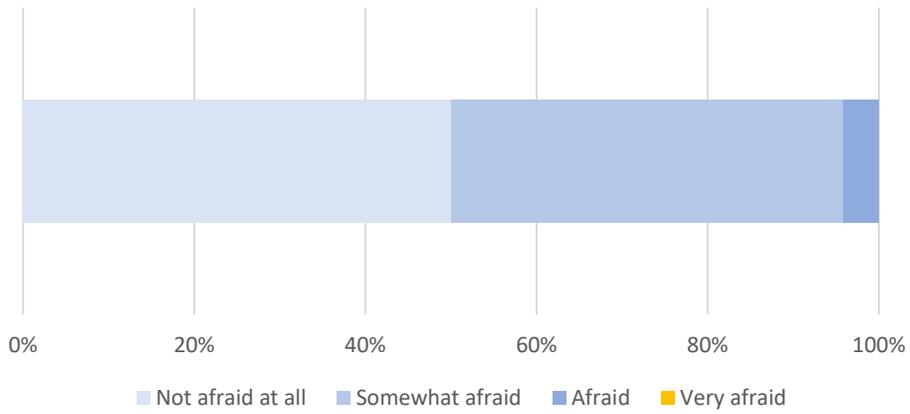
Count of How worried would you say you are about being harassed, threatened or verbally abused in the street in this area



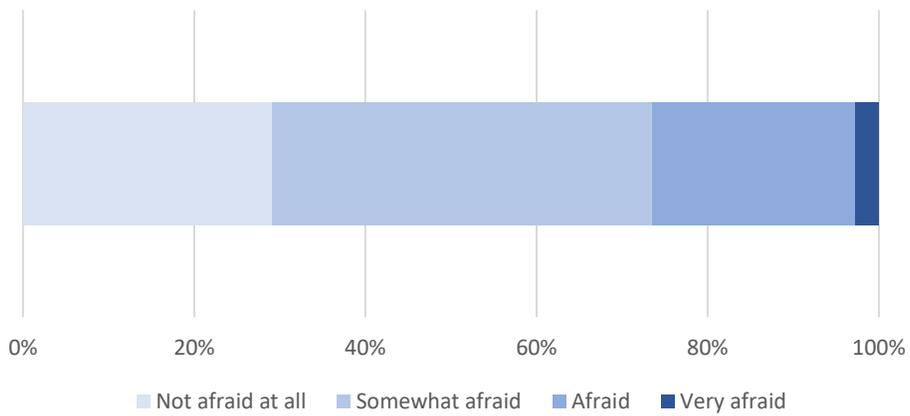
Count of How worried would you say you are about being robbed/mugged in this area



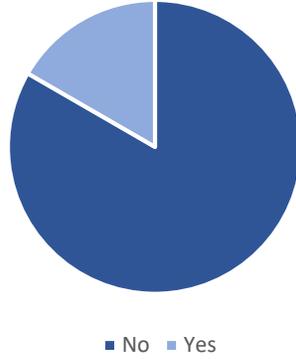
Count of Please rate how safe you feel in your neighborhood during day



Count of Please rate how safe you feel in your neighborhood during the evening

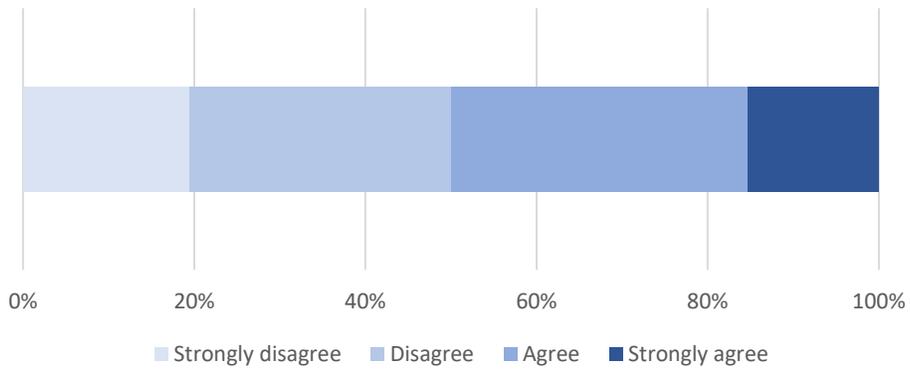


Count of During the past twelve months were you or anyone in your household the victim of any crime?

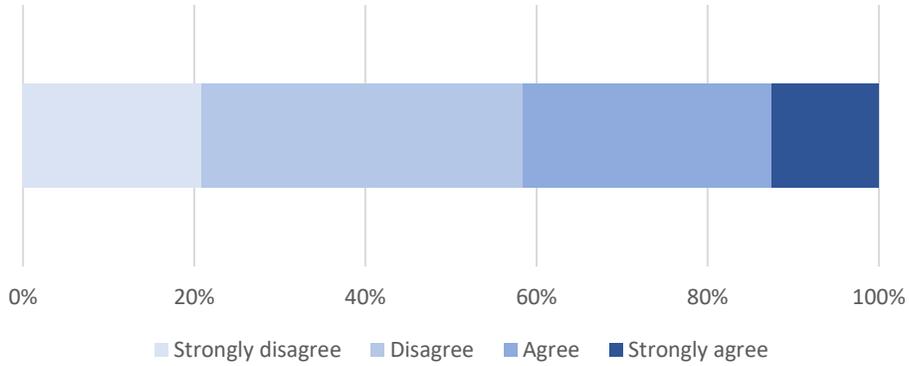


Perceptions of Satisfaction with Local Law Enforcement

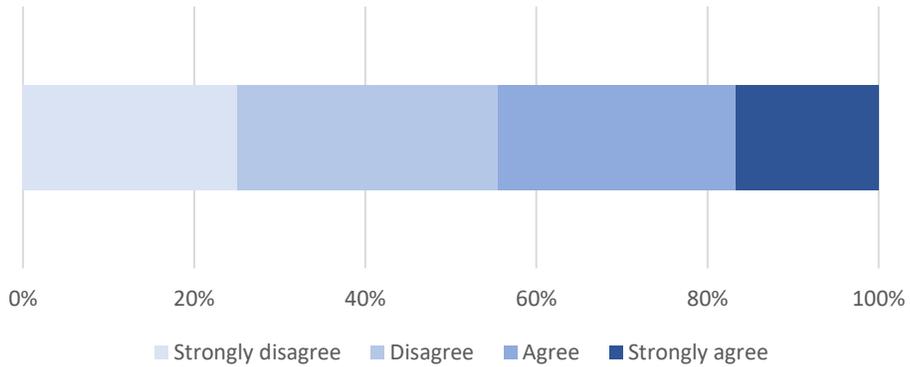
Count of Our local law enforcement agency develops close relationships with community members



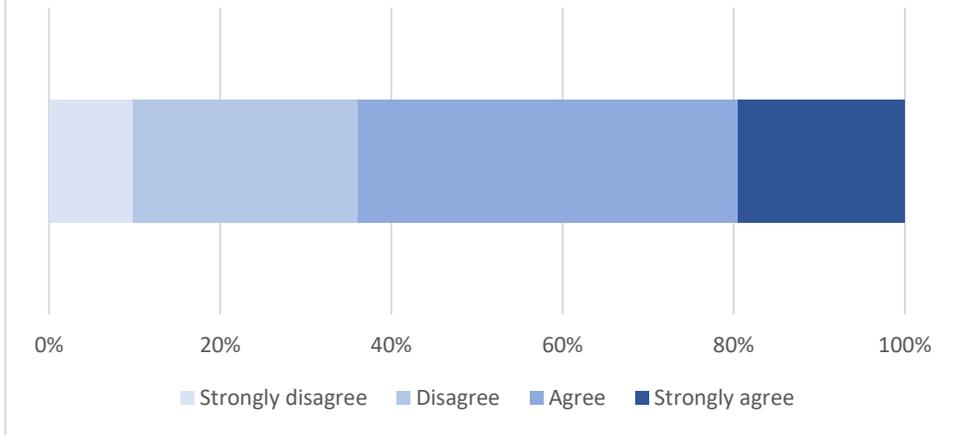
Count of Our local law enforcement agency regularly communicates with community members



Count of Our local law enforcement agency makes it easy for community members to provide input



Count of How satisfied are you with the overall performance of your local law enforcement





TO: Mayor and Town of Bennett Board of Trustees
FROM: Rachel Summers, Deputy Town Administrator
Robin Price, Public Works Director
DATE: July 26, 2022
SUBJECT: Bennett Civic Center Park Conceptual Plan

Background

Bennett Civic Center came to life in 2010 via comprehensive planning, when the Town of Bennett identified a new central area along Highway 79 that would become the core of Bennett. The area identified as Bennett Civic Center is proposed to include a regional park, access to trails and municipal facilities that would house the primary functions of local services. This core was planned to bring together resources from many partners in a well-connected centralized location.

Civic Center Park is identified in the Town's Parks, Trails and Open Space Master Plan as one of the most valuable assets for active and passive recreational amenities in the community. The first phase of Civic Center Park encompasses the veterans memorial, trailhead parking lot, community garden and the historical Muegge house and garden. The trailhead leads directly to the Town's trail network that converges all trail systems into one area, including the trail on the south side of the Centennial neighborhood that connects the Bennett Community Center to Civic Center and the trail along South 1st Street leading to commercial businesses on Marketplace drive. Bennett has over five miles of connecting trail merging into this core location.

The second phase of Civic Center Park was to develop a conceptual master plan for 22 acres of public land dedication. In 2015, the Town applied and received funding from Adams County Open Space for a \$15,000 grant with a \$15,000 local match to complete the aforementioned master plan. Sunlit Designs, the landscape architect, developed a specific park program that includes various anticipated park uses. During the planning process, a team consisting of Dan Watts (Muegge Farm Owner Representative), Lee Alverson (SM Rocha, LLC, Traffic Engineer) and Melissa Kendrick (Town Planner) produced a master plan with three various concepts. A public input meeting, held on August 17, 2015, resulted in a list of top park priorities, including a splash pad amenity, sports fields, playground, multi-use trails and other park uses. The preferred master plan also included discussions around the planning process, proposed residential developments and traffic patterns. At that time, it was estimated to cost approximately 7-8 million dollars to complete, ultimately dependent upon the time, construction cost and the number of phases required to complete the project. The Town planned to approach this project in four phases over many years, first constructing the most desired priorities.

Following the completion of the initial design, residential and master development plans were presented and approved by the Board. The need for a master stormwater detention pond in Civic Center became apparent and resulted in the need to update the park's conceptual plan layout. In 2020, the Town applied and received funding from Adams County Open Space for a \$5,000 mini-grant with a

\$5,000 local match to update the plan. An update to the conceptual park plan was bid and awarded to Jimenez Design Group to reconfigure the park elements captured in the original plan and include the new storm drainage layout.

Staff Recommendation

Since September 2021, Staff has worked diligently with adjacent landowners and districts to develop the recommended master concept proposal attached to this staff report. The overall project implementation will be a phased construction approach.

If approved, Staff's funding plan is to leverage Tract J, a storm drainage public land dedication of approximately 13 acres, to apply for Phase 1 of the project from Adams County Open Space. Additionally, Staff intends to apply to GOCO and match that with the Adams County Open Space. In total, Staff will request approximately \$2.5m in construction grant funding in Fall 2022.

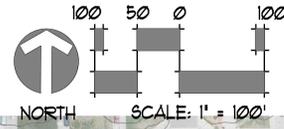
Staff recommends the Board of Trustees approve the updated Civic Center Park Master Plan.

Attachments

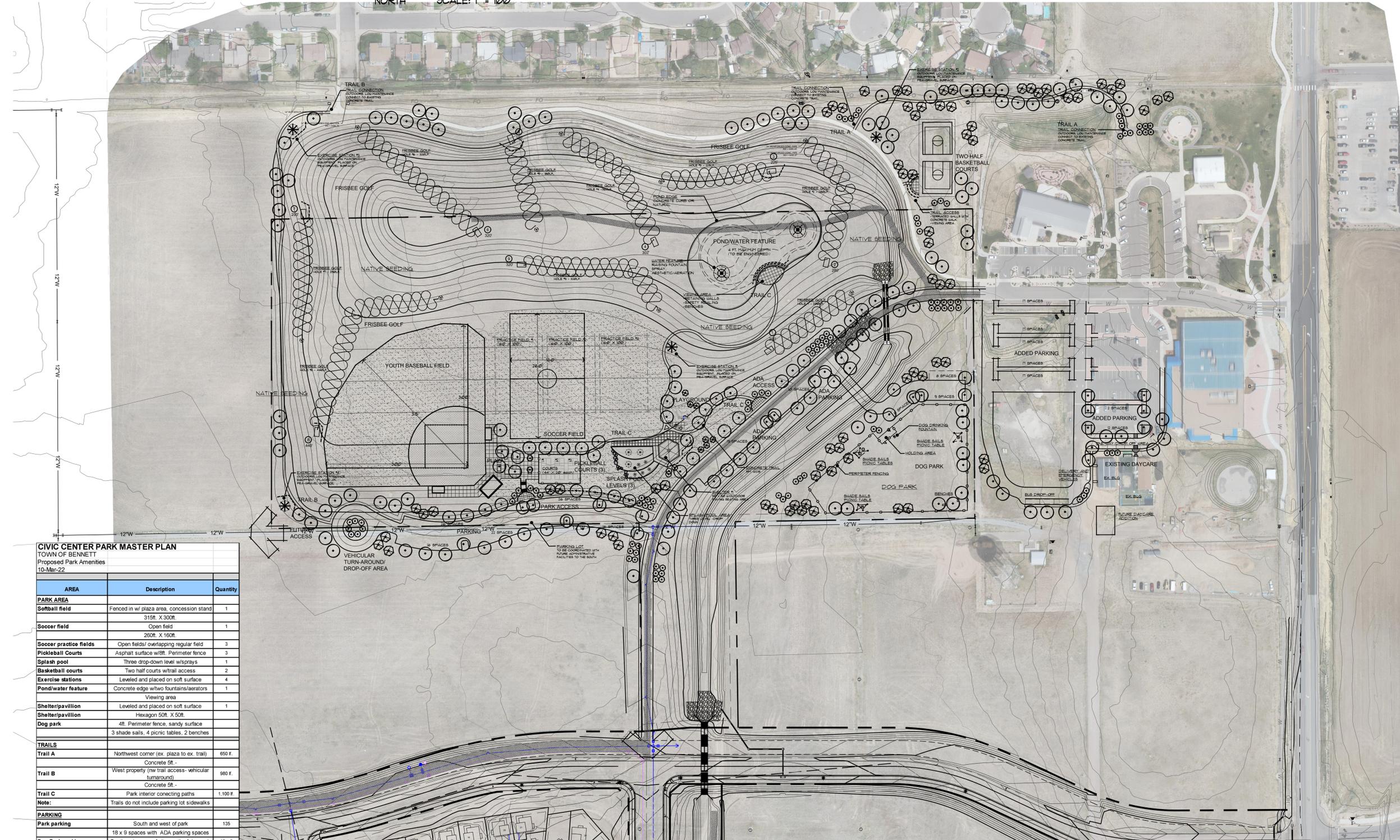
1. Civic Center Park Master Plan

CIVIC CENTER PARK

TOWN OF BENNETT, COLORADO

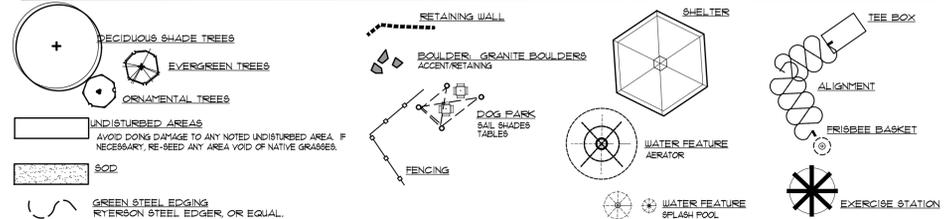


PROJECT AREA



CIVIC CENTER PARK MASTER PLAN TOWN OF BENNETT Proposed Park Amenities 10-Mar-22		
AREA	Description	Quantity
PARK AREA		
Softball field	Fenced in w/ plaza area, concession stand 315ft. X 300ft.	1
Soccer field	Open field 280ft. X 160ft.	1
Soccer practice fields	Open fields/ overlapping regular field	3
Pickleball Courts	Asphalt surface w/ft. Perimeter fence	3
Splash pool	Three drop-down level w/sprays	1
Basketball courts	Two half courts w/trail access	2
Exercise stations	Levelled and placed on soft surface	4
Pond/water feature	Concrete edge w/two fountains/aerators Viewing area	1
Shelter/pavilion	Levelled and placed on soft surface	1
Shelter/pavilion	Hexagon 50ft. X 50ft.	
Dog park	4ft. Perimeter fence, sandy surface 3 shade sails, 4 picnic tables, 2 benches	
TRAILS		
Trail A	Northwest corner (ex. plaza to ex. trail) Concrete 5ft.	650 ft.
Trail B	West property (nw trail access- vehicular turn-around) Concrete 5ft.	980 ft.
Trail C	Park interior connecting paths	1,100 ft.
Note:	Trails do not include parking lot sidewalks	
PARKING		
Park parking	South and west of park 18 x 9 spaces with ADA parking spaces	135
Dog Park parking	Southeast corner of site, north of dog park 18 x 9 spaces w/option for future parking	15 + 8
Commercial/Adm.	East of project- outside of park limits 18 x 9 spaces with ADA parking spaces Bus parking and drop-off area Count does not include bus and drop off	99

LEGEND



CALL UTILITY NOTIFICATION
CENTER OF COLORADO
1-800-922-1987
CALL 2-BUSINESS DAYS IN ADVANCE
BEFORE YOU DIG, GRADE, OR EXCAVATE
FOR THE MARKING OF UNDERGROUND
MEMBER UTILITIES

No.	DATE	BY	COMMENTS
1	03/10/22	JCJ	Landscape modifications- Soccer field alignment

STAMP:

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT:

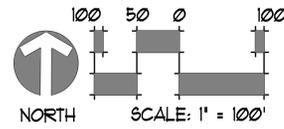
JIMMIE E. DEBENIG
314 Rose Park Circle, Highlands Ranch, CO 80126
Phone: 303.913.7417 Fax: 720.344.0884

CIVIC CENTER PARK
TOWN OF BENNETT, COLORADO
LANDSCAPE MASTER PLAN

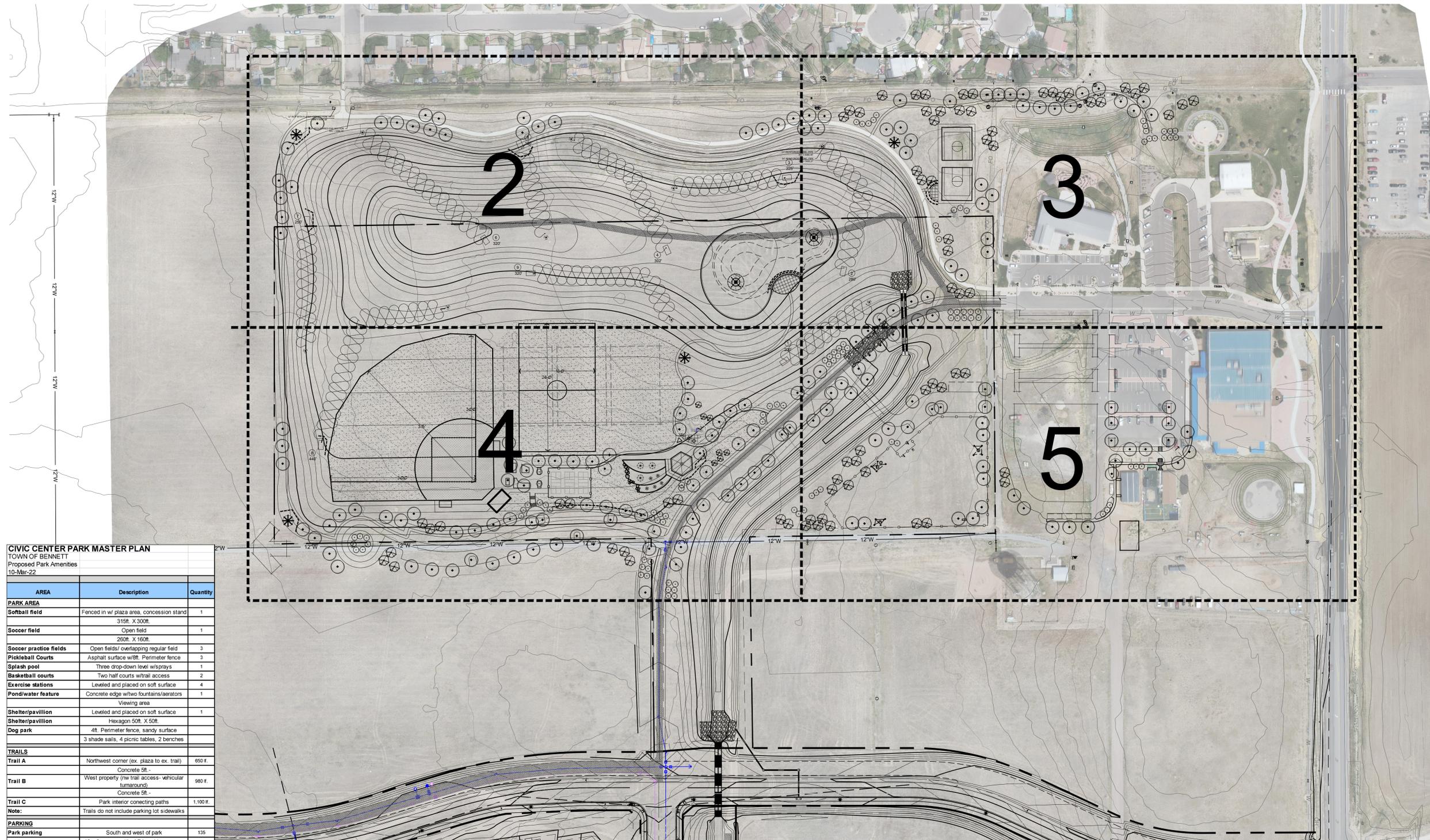
ISSUE DATE:	06SEPT2021
DRAWN BY:	JCJ
CHECKED BY:	RAJ
SCALE:	
PROJECT NO.	00-585
SHEET NAME:	
SHEET NO.	0

CIVIC CENTER PARK

TOWN OF BENNETT, COLORADO



PROJECT AREA

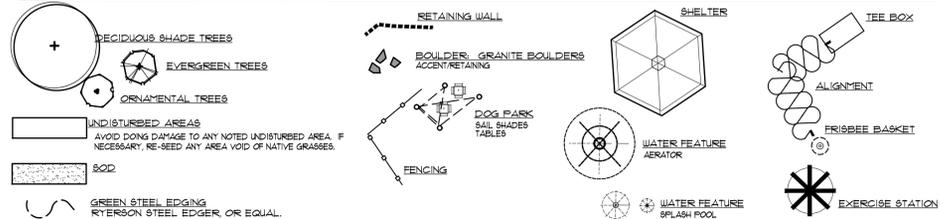


CIVIC CENTER PARK MASTER PLAN

TOWN OF BENNETT
Proposed Park Amenities
10-Mar-22

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LEGEND



No.	COMMENTS	DATE
1	Landscape modifications- Soccer field alignment	03/10/22

STAMP:

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT:

JIMENEZ DESIGN GROUP
314 Rose Park Circle, Highlands Ranch, CO 80126
Phone: 303.913.7417 Fax: 720.344.0884

CIVIC CENTER PARK

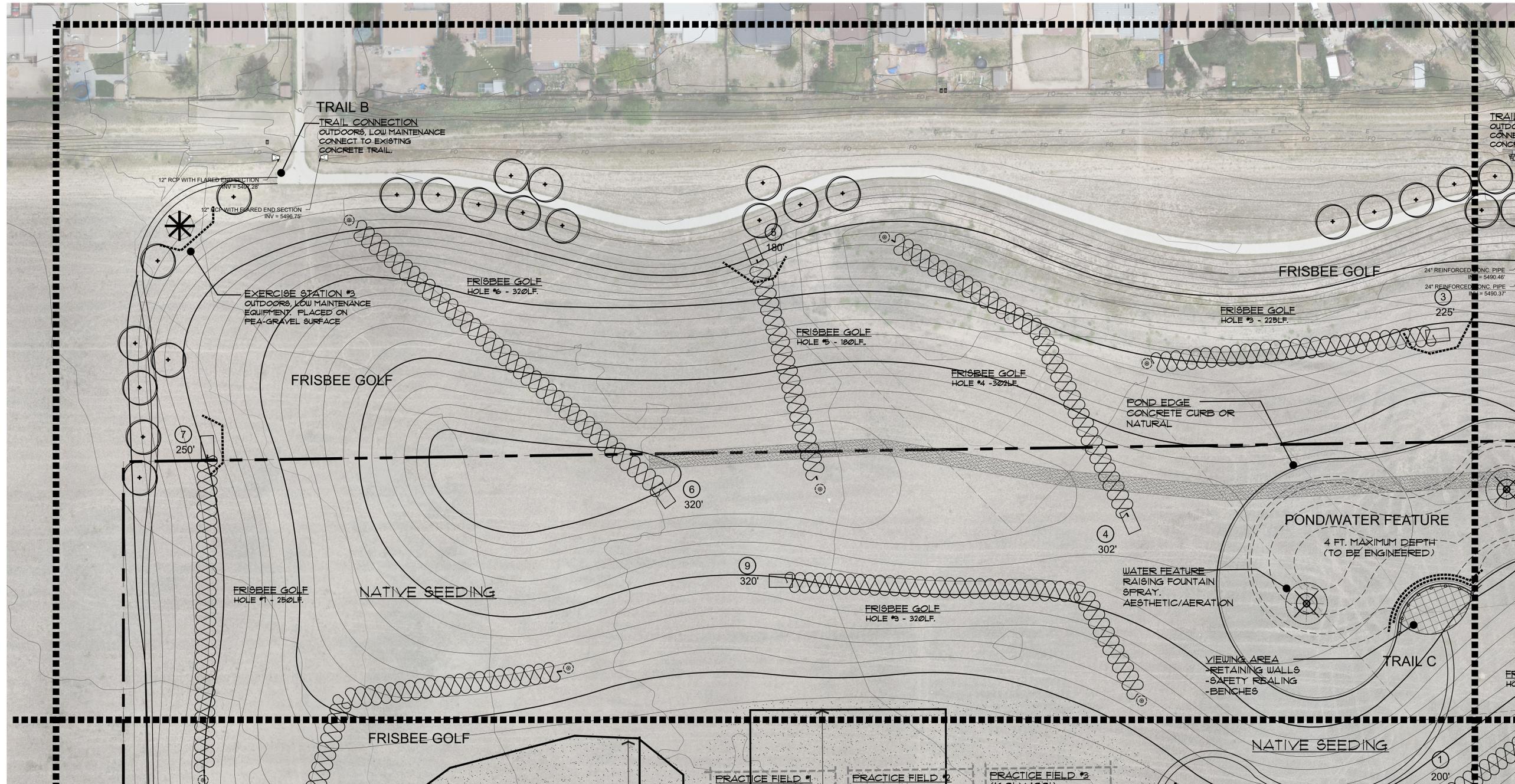
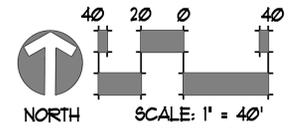
TOWN OF BENNETT, COLORADO

LANDSCAPE MASTER PLAN

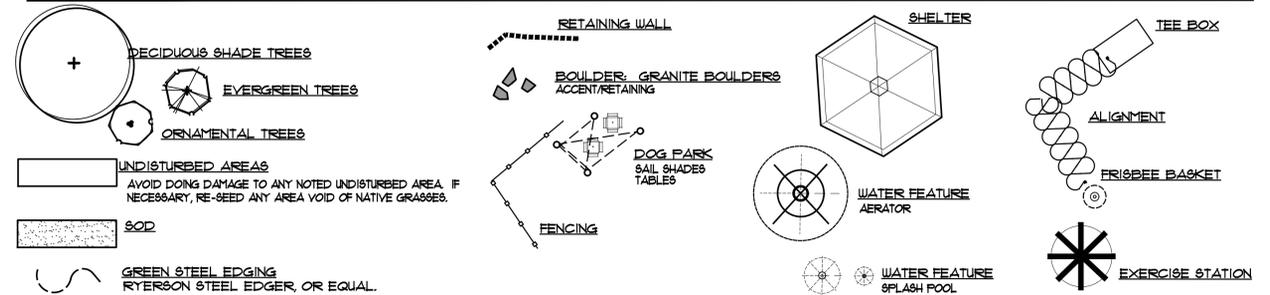
ISSUE DATE:	06SEPT2021
DRAWN BY:	JCJ
CHECKED BY:	RAJ
SCALE:	
PROJECT NO.	00-585
SHEET NAME:	
SHEET NO.	1

CIVIC CENTER PARK

TOWN OF BENNETT, COLORADO



LEGEND



No.	COMMENTS
1	Landscape modifications - Soccer field alignment

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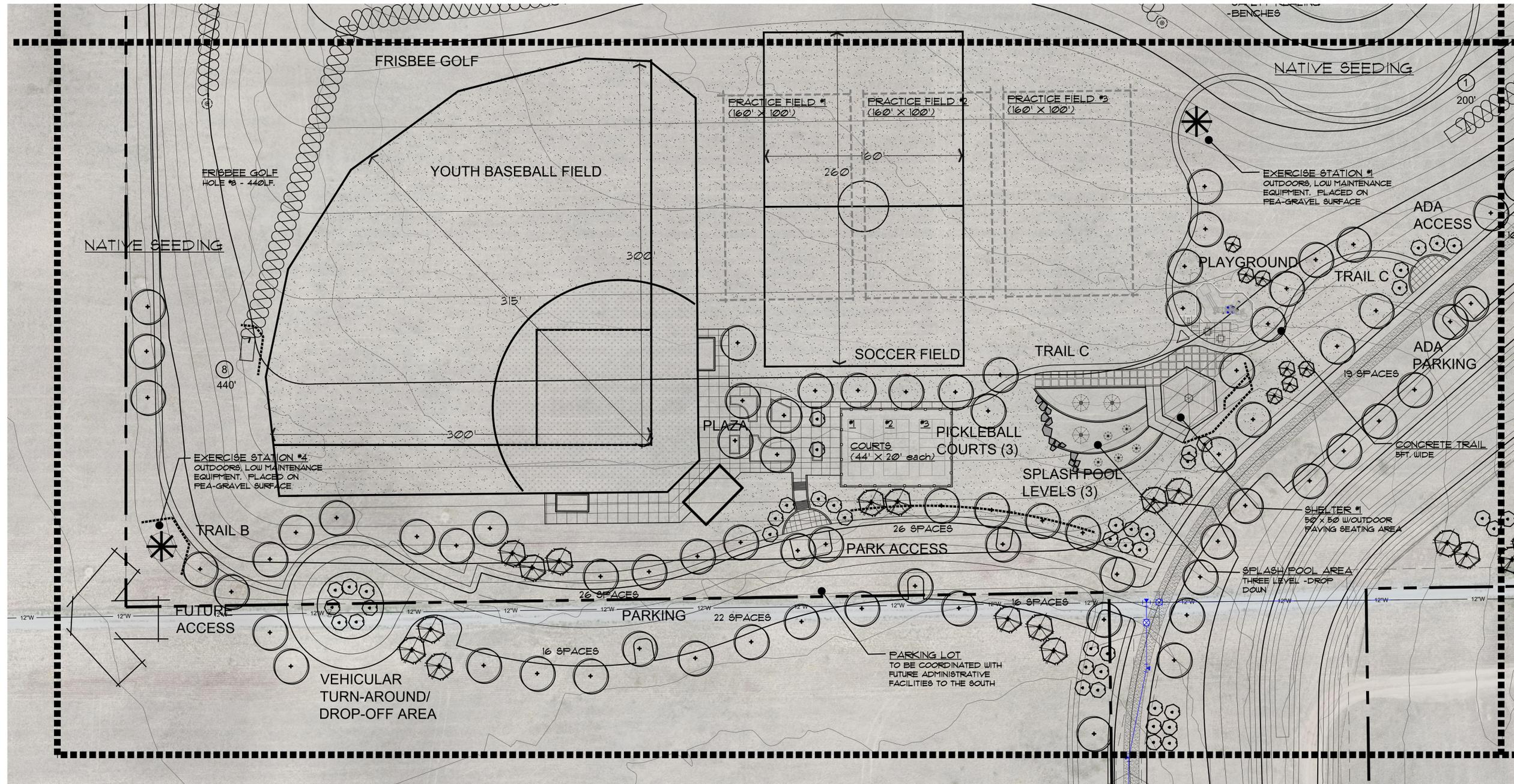
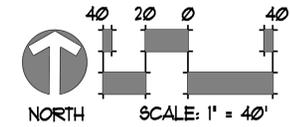
JAG LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
314 Stone Creek Circle, Highlands Ranch, CO 80126
Phone: 303.913.7417 Fax: 720.344.0884

CIVIC CENTER PARK TOWN OF BENNETT, COLORADO LANDSCAPE MASTER PLAN

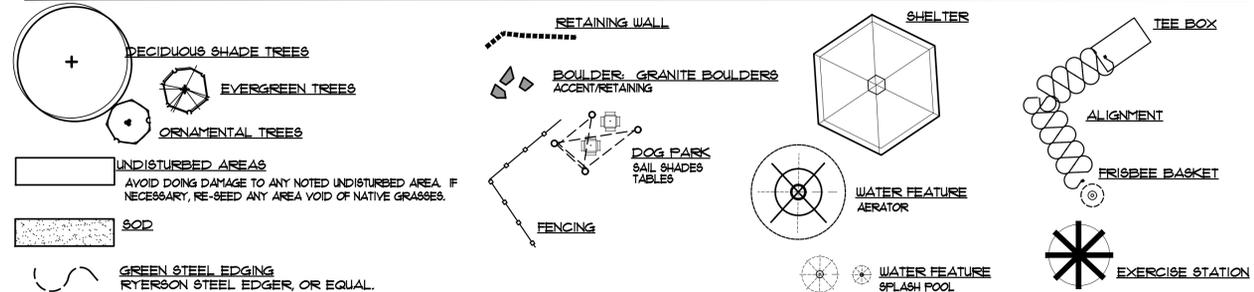
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DRAWN BY:	JCJ
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PROJECT NO.	00-585
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SHEET NO.	2

CIVIC CENTER PARK

TOWN OF BENNETT, COLORADO



LEGEND



DATE	03/10/22
BY	JCJ
COMMENTS	Landscape modifications - Soccer field alignment
No.	1

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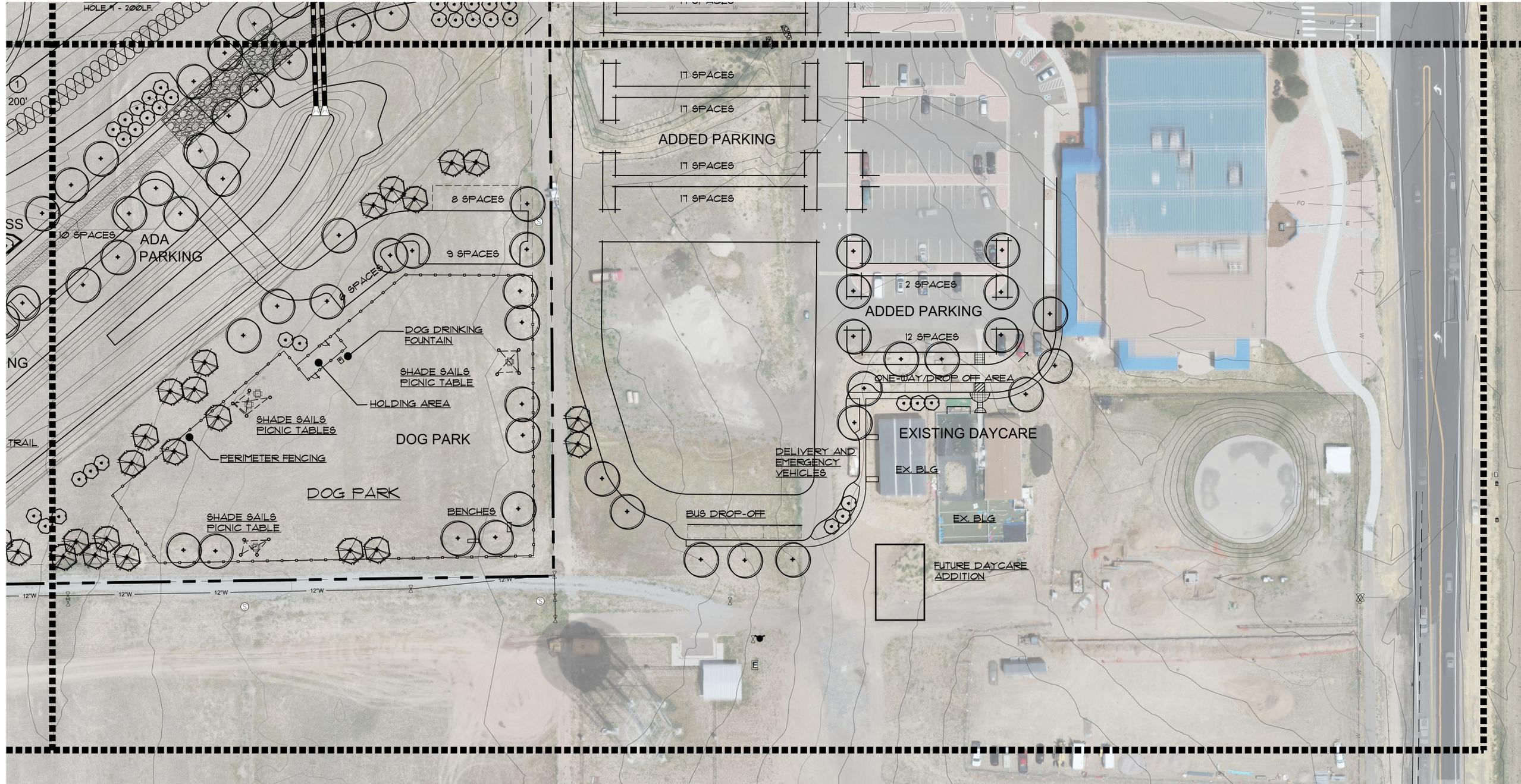
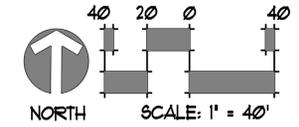
JDA LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE, INC.
314 Stone Creek Circle, Highlands Ranch, CO 80126
Phone: 303.913.7417 Fax: 720.344.0884

CIVIC CENTER PARK TOWN OF BENNETT, COLORADO LANDSCAPE MASTER PLAN

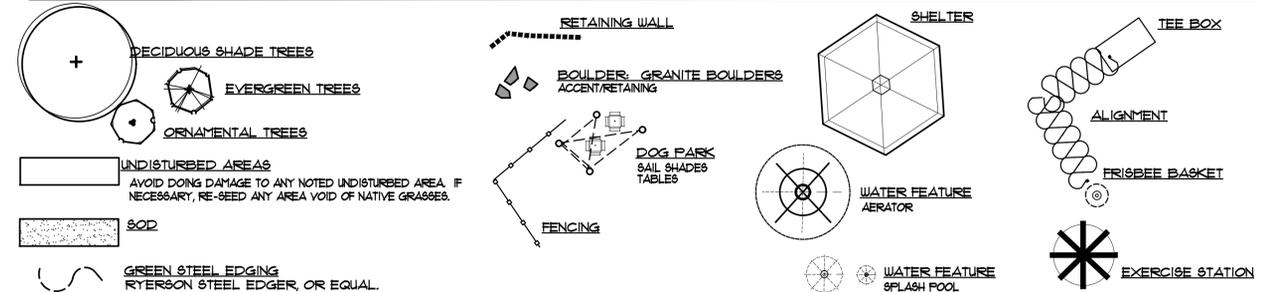
ISSUE DATE:	06SEPT2021
DRAWN BY:	JCJ
CHECKED BY:	RAJ
SCALE:	
PROJECT NO.	00-585
SHEET NAME:	
SHEET NO.	4

CIVIC CENTER PARK

TOWN OF BENNETT, COLORADO



LEGEND



DATE	03/10/22
BY	JCJ
COMMENTS	Landscape modifications - Soccer field alignment
No.	1

STAMP:

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT:

JIMMIE E. DEBILIP
314 Rose Park Circle, Highlands Ranch, CO 80126
Phone: 303.913.7417 Fax: 720.344.0884

CIVIC CENTER PARK

TOWN OF BENNETT, COLORADO

LANDSCAPE MASTER PLAN

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DEPARTMENT PROGRESS REPORT



TO: Mayor and Town of Bennett Board of Trustees
FROM: Christina Hart, Town Clerk
DATE: July 26, 2022
SUBJECT: Town Clerk Progress Report

Management Summary

The Clerk's Office recently attended the annual Colorado Municipal Clerks Association (CMCA) institute from July 5 – July 13. Staff attended a number of online and interactive classes on several topics, including Collaboration and Teams, Diversity and Inclusiveness and Elections. The annual conference is scheduled for October 2022 in Canon City.

Below are items the Clerk's Office is currently working on:

Town of Bennett Records

- Staff finalized the records trailer audit. The final documents sent to PaperVision/RMMI for scanning should be complete, and the records returned to Town Hall by the end of October 2022. Staff will perform a full audit of electronic documents for accuracy and consistency of naming conventions. Staff expects the audit to be completed by December 2023.
- The documents in the records trailer that met the retention timeframe, as adopted by the Town, were destroyed during the annual Town Clean-Up Day in June.
- The Clerk's Department is meeting with each department regarding the electronic document retention for training and support. Each department is responsible for keeping all necessary department documents properly stored and maintained consistently. A reference sheet has been created for each department, and employees can use this as a guideline for which documents must be retained.
- Any document with a retention schedule of over three (3) years should be stored in PaperVision/RMMI.

Liquor Licenses

- The new Fermented Malt Beverage (Off-Premise) license was approved by both the Bennett Liquor Licensing Authority and the Department of Revenue Liquor Licensing Division
- Tri-Valley VFW Post #8449 submitted an application for a Special Events Permit. The application will be presented to the Bennett Liquor Licensing Authority during a public hearing on August 9, 2022.
- All local liquor licenses are current. There have been no violations with any of the Town licensees.